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INDIANA

MAGAZINE OF HISTORY

Vol. XVII

SEPTEMBER, 1921

No. 3

New Albany, With a Short Sketch of the Scribner Family

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The name was originally Scrivener, a professional writer or conveyancer. The first of the name in America was Matthew Scrivener—a member of the Council of the Virginia colony in 1607. It does not appear that he had a family, but he was commended by Capt. John Smith, as a very wise, understanding gentleman. He was drowned in the James river a year or two after his arrival.

Benjamin Scrivener of Norwalk, Connecticut, is reported to be the ancestor of the Scribners in this country. From little that is known of him, and his family we learn that he married Hannah Crampton March 5, 1680, and that he had four sons of whom Matthew the youngest is the ancestor of the line to be considered. Benjamin adhered to the name of Scrivener, for, in a deed of land to his son Matthew, bearing date of September 20, 1741, when he must have been over 80 years of age, he signs it Scrivener. The town clerk, when recording the names of his grandchildren born after 1742, wrote Scribner, doubtless by direction of their parents. Nathaniel Scribner, eldest son of Matthew, married Phebe Kellogg and had a family of thirteen children, among them Joel, Nathaniel, and Abner the three brothers who settled New Albany. Not long after his marriage Nathaniel, Sr., purchased a farm in Putnam county, New York. At that time there were few inhabitants, all farmers, living at long distances from each other, and having none of the conveniences or privileges of older communities. Mr. Scribner built

a large house, not far from the church at which the Rev. Elias Kent officiated so long that the country there about came to be known as Kents Parish.

The Scribners were known to be very hospitable, and their home became the gathering place for the widely scattered members of the congregation, who came to church—not in carriage or even wagons, but on foot or on horseback. In the interval between the services many of them were accustomed to assemble in Mr. Scribner's comfortable rooms, and spend an hour in pleasant converse while partaking of the lunch they had brought with them or more frequently, that provided by their host. In this way, Mr. and Mrs. Scribner became widely known and respected as a Christian family.

When the war for independence commenced, he was one of the first to identify himself with the patriot cause. He was commissioned a lieutenant but was later promoted to a captaincy. Having early in the struggle received a wound in battle which disabled one of his arms, he was stationed with his company on the borders of the "Neutral Ground", not far from his home, and thus lost the opportunity for further advancement. It is related that on one occasion he had leave of absence, for forty-eight hours. His wife found his stockings in a very bad condition. She immediately sent one of her boys to clip the wool off a sheep, carded and spun the wool into yarn and knit a pair of stockings for the captain before the time was up. (She surely was some knitter.)

At the close of the war, society was disorganized, and industry paralyzed: more perhaps, in that section of the state than in any other, so that Captain Scribner found it necessary, in his crippled condition to resort to some other means than farming to gain a livelihood for his large family. Happily he was provided with a brain to devise and a will to carry out his plans.

He returned to Connecticut and built a tide-water flouring mill at Norwalk which he sold. He then built a larger one and a residence at Campo, on the Sound. It was so successful that he, and some of his relatives were encouraged to build a large mill at Millford, Connecticut, which, on account of a mistake of the millwright, proved a failure, and his financial ruin. As soon as his affairs were settled, Captain

Scribner began business anew, finding new fields for his activities. His plans required a journey to Georgia, and while traveling in that state, he was stricken with fever (probably yellow fever.) Unable to find proper accommodations, nursing, or medical care, he soon yielded to the malady, and died in 1790 among strangers, far from home with no friend to perform the offices of affection at his bedside while living or, after death, tenderly and reverently to commit his body to the grave. The letter announcing his death was carefully preserved by his widow and kept on her person till her death.

Four of Captain Scribner's sons were engaged in mercantile pursuits in New York city, one of them Elijah died in early manhood, leaving his property to his mother, who, with two of her daughters, established a boarding school for young ladies at Elizabethtown, New Jersey. The three sons who founded the city of New Albany were Joel, Abner and Nathaniel. In the year 1811 Joel Scribner, with his family consisting of a wife and seven children, his brother-in-law William Waring, with his wife and three small sons, and Harry, the brother of William decided to "go west". Accordingly they left New York for Cincinnati to establish a business which was to be carried on by the three partners. The Waring brothers understood the business, which was that of making leather, while Mr. Scribner was to attend to the financial part of it. The journey from New York to Cincinnati was a great undertaking in those days. Each family was furnished with a large wagon, drawn by three horses, and filled with household goods, provisions, and children. On the 17th of October the two families left Elizabethtown, New Jersey and began their long, tedious journey to the far west, as it was then called, and as it indeed was, at that time of slow traveling. They journeyed directly across the state of New Jersey, passing through "Scotch Plains", Plainfield, Somerville, and many other towns, crossing the Delaware at Carton, and traveling through the state of Pennsylvania to Pittsburgh, as that was considered the best route. A great many towns and cities have been built since that time, so only a few of them are mentioned. Leaving Easton they passed through Bethlehem and Allentown, crossing the

Schuylkill river at Reading, and the Susquehanna at Harrisburgh, then journeying through Carlisle, Shippensburgh, Chambersburgh, Bedford, Somerset, Laurel Hill, and Greensburgh, and at last reaching Pittsburgh.

Many incidents occurred on the journey, a few of which will be mentioned. At one town, court was in session, and it was impossible to get accommodation at the only inn, which was crowded, so they had to go on to the next village where, as it was late in the evening, there was a long wait before their supper was served. At another place there was no water to be had for the horses, and one of the travelers had to take one of their horses, hitch it to a sled, and go two miles for water. Another mishap was the loss of one of their horses, which ate too much green corn, as there was nothing else to give them; consequently they had great difficulty in procuring another, but finally found an old Revolutionary steed, which they purchased for \$15. The roads nearly all the way were exceedingly muddy, so their progress was necessarily slow, and what made matters worse, men were ploughing up the roads in places to make turnpikes, so in many places they were all but impassable. They met many large road wagons with wheels nearly a foot broad, hauled by five or six horses carrying goods across the Alleghanies to Pittsburgh, there being no other method of transportation at that time. They reached the top of the mountains about sunset, expecting, no doubt, to see a fine view, but as it was raining old Sol was in hiding, and the prospect far from pleasing. They stopped at a large stone tavern but as there were many travelers and teamsters ahead of them they had to wait till nine o'clock for their suppers but then were served with fried chicken, hot coffee and other good things, which were greatly appreciated.

They reached Pittsburgh about the first of November, all rejoiced that they were done traveling through the mud, for they intended to make the remainder of the journey by water. Accordingly they sold their wagons, sent the horses through by land, purchased a flatboat and provisions, and after fixing up the cabin, as comfortably as possible for the women and children, loaded on their goods and embarked on the untried waters of the Ohio.

They went slowly, tying up at night as the river was very low. There was a difference of opinion between the Waring brothers and Mr. Scribner, in regard to keeping the Sabbath. The former thought it was better to keep on, saving time, while Mr. Scribner, who was a "blue-stockings" Presbyterian, contended that it was breaking the fourth commandment, "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy" to travel on that day, had his way and they tied up on Sundays. They landed at Cincinnati, November 30, just three weeks after leaving Pittsburgh. They found it extremely difficult to procure a house, so many from the east were arriving daily, consequently they had to remain on the boat for five weeks before they were finally settled in a small house, on a back street.

Many other families in boats along the shore endured the same discomforts. In February 1812, the whole western country was visited by earthquakes and shocks some of which were very severe, so much so, that the inhabitants of Cincinnati were very much alarmed and some so terror stricken that they forsook their homes for the streets. It was at this time that the town of New Madrid, Missouri, was almost destroyed by them.

It was the purpose of the Warings to establish themselves as soon as possible in their business on a large and extensive scale, and they very soon began to purchase material, even before they had secured a site for their business. It was their intention also to add to their trading, boot and shoe making in all its branches, and in a short time they had a large shoe shop in operation. In order to compete with the best shops of the kind, and for the purpose of obtaining the finest material it was thought best for Mr. Scribner to go to New York and purchase such stock as they needed.

Accordingly he left his family, strangers in a strange land, and as there was nothing better than stage coaching in those days, for the traveling public, he was gone nearly all the remainder of the winter, and had the misfortune of having his pocket picked of \$800, so you see there was wickedness abroad in the land, then, as now. It must have been done by a fellow traveler, as the empty pocket book was found on the floor of the coach, with papers scattered around. Every

effort was made to find the thief but they decided he must have left the coach before the theft was discovered.

According to the custom of the times, all men between the ages of eighteen and forty-five must "train" or "muster" as it was called either among the militia of the state, or some independent company. One of the Warings joined a cavalry company, and was made an officer and the other joined the light infantry, and soon after war with England was declared, the War of 1812. Of course the companies to which the brothers belonged had to go. This was the breaking up of the business of the firm of Scribner and Waring; consequently all had to be sold to the best advantage, and during the summer and fall it was accomplished. During the year all the troops from Tennessee, Kentucky and Indiana passed through Cincinnati on their way north, which to the children, especially, was a most interesting sight. Cincinnati, a small town when they arrived, was rapidly growing with emigrants from the north and east. At that time there were no public improvements of any kind, except a small market-house on the "bottom" east of Main street, and no wharf or other improvements on the river front. There was an old stone building on the hill, west of Main street near, and a little north, of Dr. Williams' old frame church, which had a large grave-yard in the rear.

In the fall of 1812 Mr. Scribner's two younger brothers arrived at Cincinnati and in December or January the three brothers started off on an exploring expedition, with the view of purchasing wild land and laying out a new town. When they visited the site of New Albany, with the falls of the Ohio so near, and Louisville, almost opposite, quite a flourishing town they enquired to whom it belonged, and ascertaining that the land belonged to Col. John Paul of Madison, Indiana, after some delay purchased eight hundred and sixty acres for eight thousand dollars, being nearly ten dollars per acre, a high price for wild land, at that time. They also had the sole right of ferriage across the river. They returned to Cincinnati and made arrangements for removal, and on the 2nd day of March, 1813, the first tree was cut down to make a clearing in the wilderness for the erection of a large log cabin. This spot was at the corner of

what is now, east Sixth and Main streets, and just two months afterwards the two families landed from the flatboat which had brought them down the river, and moved into the large mansion which had been built for them. As Mr. Waring had gone to the help of his country in its time of need, Mr. Scribner had to take charge of his little family. The Warings were never heard from and it was not known, by the family, whether they were killed, but it was supposed they were. Mrs. Waring afterward married again and there was no "Enoch Arden" episode.

The large double cabin of the first settlers must have been well filled with Joel Scribner, his wife and seven children and across the hall Mrs. Waring and three children and the other brothers Nathaniel and Abner. Of course, the cabin was built of green logs, entirely unseasoned and was finished as well as possible during the summer. The whole site of the proposed town was covered with a virgin forest of beech, maple, poplar and oak, with a heavy undergrowth of pawpaw, sassafras, spice-wood, green brier, and almost every other kind of shrub incident to a rich soil, so that when the leaves had obtained their full growth in summer it was impossible to see a rod ahead in the woods. The view from Kane knob west of the place, where a good view of the surrounding country could be obtained, was wonderfully beautiful. Bayard Taylor who visited our city in the 50's said he had seen many beautiful views in many lands but none were finer than those from our knobs, now called "Silver Hills". Men were procured (probably from Louisville or Jeffersonville) to cut down trees, grub out stumps and prepare for the surveyor, and the platting of the town. The man who had the honor of surveying the ground was John K. Graham, and the chain he used is still preserved by some of his descendants. William Scribner second son of Joel, thirteen years of age at the time, was in after years, proud to tell that he assisted in the work by carrying the chain.

Very soon a saw mill was built and in one year afterwards the first frame house was completed by Joel S. Scribner and the family moved into it. It is a two story and a half house, with a narrow entrance hall, and stairs also rather narrow and steep, with two rooms opening from it one at the side

and one at the rear, and back of the room is a porch the width of the house, with another one over it opening from the back room of the second story. On the second floor are three rooms and a hall, with stairs leading to a large attic chamber, which is not divided, but is as large as two rooms. The house has also a large basement dining room with a small kitchen at one end, and a door leading into a cellar at the other. This house, which is in pretty good repair, considering its age, has been purchased by Piankashaw chapter D. A. R., for a chapter house, hoping to preserve it for another century. It has been occupied by some of the Scribner family until 1917 when Miss Harriett Scribner, daughter of Dr. William Scribner and grand-daughter of Joel, was called to her reward, at the age of eighty-two years. Miss Scribner was a fine musician, and taught music for more than sixty years in the front room of the house which was called the "music room". She taught piano, cabinet organ, guitar, banjo, and any other stringed instrument that was brought to her. She also taught vocal. She was organist and leader of the choir of the First Presbyterian church for many years and, before her time, and the time when instruments were used in churches, her father Dr. Scribner led the singing, raising the tunes with a tuning fork. Most of the family were and are musical.

The first public sale of lots in the town of New Albany took place on the second and third days of November, 1813, by which time there were several log cabins along Main street, and in the course of the summer quite a number of families had moved in. Among the first buildings erected, was a large square cabin for a schoolhouse. The brothers donated the four corners of State and Spring streets for city purposes—one for a courthouse, one for a schoolhouse, the third for a city hall, and the remaining one for a jail.

The site for the schoolhouse, was afterward moved one square west, as, I presume, it was thought to be too near the jail. In later years it was used for a high school, and is still called the "The Scribner High School." Some years ago, it was taken for a colored high, and as it was getting aged the city proposed to build a schoolhouse in a part of the town where most of the colored population lived, but found that if

they moved the site the ground would revert to the Scribner heirs, so they built a new house on the old corner and it is still called the "Scribner High School." The first Scribner to be born in New Albany was Harriett, daughter of Joel and Mary, in 1815. Nathaniel Scribner made a trip (or rather a journey) to New York, by stage coach in the month of June, 1815, and when he returned was accompanied by a cousin Miss Elizabeth Edmonds whom he met while east for the first time and a year later she became his wife. The same year another brother James, and the mother, Mrs. Phebe Scribner, with her daughter Esther came to New Albany.

Mrs. Scribner and two daughters had been teaching a private school for young ladies at Elizabethtown, New Jersey, and when one of them died, the mother and daughter who was left, decided to come west to be with her sons. She built the central part of a large frame house on the corner of Main and west First streets, which afterwards was added to and became a tavern, conducted by Dr. Nathan Hale who married Mrs. Scribner's daughter Esther. It is only a few months since that old building which was used for a tavern or hotel, until a few years ago, was torn down. It flourished under the name of the High Street house (Main street was formerly called High) and Commercial Hotel for many years.

At this time the capital of Indiana territory was at Corydon and as it was ascertained that New Albany was partly in Clark and partly in Harrison counties during a session of the legislature at Corydon in 1818, Nathaniel Scribner and Mr. Graham went to that place to petition for a new county, so a slice of each county was taken to form the county of Floyd named for Gen. Davis Floyd who was one of the early settlers. Mr. Scribner was ill while at Corydon and on the way home became suddenly worse and they stopped at the home of Richard Watson, a few miles from the town. A doctor and his brothers were sent for, but he died before they reached the place. So died the youngest of the three brothers in his early manhood when the town was still in its infancy leaving a young wife to mourn his loss.

It was a remarkable fact that the three Scribner brothers, after their wonderful undertaking of founding a new town,

lived such a short time to enjoy it. Joel only lived ten years after arriving, and died at the age of 51 years. Abner left New Albany, and died a few years later. Joel's wife, Mary Scribner, died of cholera in 1832.

In beautiful Fairview cemetery are the graves of Joel, his wife, his mother, his sons Harvey, William Eliphlet, and his daughters Harriett, Phebe and Mary. Mary was the first wife of Dr. Ashael Clapp, Phebe the wife of James Cooper Davis. Harriett died in infancy. A great granddaughter of Joel Scribner lives in Indianapolis, Mrs. Mabel Morrison *nee* Cobb, and also her daughter. Others live in Massachusetts. A great-grandson, William A. Shields, lives at Howard Park, between here and Jeffersonville, another, Addison Scribner, who is a brother of Mary Helen Scribner, mentioned in the narrative, lives in Louisville. A great-granddaughter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Collins lives at Evansville, Indiana, Mrs. John S. Henk.

There are several great grandchildren of Abner and some of Nathaniel living at different places. Charles Scribner who established *Scribner's Magazine*, New York, was a first cousin of Joel and his brothers.

The town was incorporated in 1817 by the Scribner brothers, John Edmonson, and Charles Woodruff. On the formation of Floyd county, Davis Floyd was made judge and Isaac Van Buskirk, associate; Joel Scribner, clerk and recorder; James Besse, sheriff, and Isaac Stewart, assessor. Court opened May 19, 1819. Charles Paxson, Clement Vance, Jr., and Jacob Pierroll were the first commissioners. They met first at the house of Seth Woodruff and continued to make that their official place for several years. On February 10, 1819, the commissioners "ordered that tavern keepers within the county of Floyd observe in their taverns the following rates: For breakfast, 31¼ cents; dinner, 34½ cents; supper, 25 cents; lodging, per night, 12½ cents; peach or apple brandy and gin, 18¾ cents per pint; Jamaica spirits, per half pint, 84½ cents; corn or oats, per gallon 12½ cents. (I hope this will not make any of my readers thirsty.) On May 3, 1819, Seth Woodruff was paid \$50 for building a jail and the total expenses for the first year of Floyd county government was \$208.97. The state and county tax for 1820

was \$1,210.40½. On May 24th of that year Abraham Littell was fined \$6.00 for refusing to accept the office of overseer of the poor. February 10, 1820, it was ordered that the treasurer pay William Norwood \$10 for drawing a plan for a courthouse. It was also ordered that the building of the courthouse and gaol be sold to the lowest bidder on the third Monday of March. Ordered that the above action be published in the *Indianian* of Jeffersonville and the *Gazette* of Corydon, and one notice be posted on Seth Woodruff's door. On the 20th of April (a postponed date) the job was bid off by Charles Paxson and others for \$7,860. The contractors soon discovered, however, that they had taken the work too low and abandoned it. Subsequently the people complained regarding the inconveniences. The commissioners brought suit against the bondsmen for the \$6,000 they had pledged themselves to raise, and as steps were being taken to remove the county seat, the people opened a subscription to build a courthouse. The total raised was \$3,256.00, which was thought to be enough for a good-sized house.

This building was occupied in November, 1824, but Seth Woodruff, who subscribed \$100 for a cupola and bell, failed to complete his part of the agreement until 1827 when the upper rooms having been completed at a cost of \$100 additional, the cupola and bell were added. The cost of the structure, which was used for more than forty years as a seat of county justice, was less than \$3,000.

Just here I must give a sketch of Seth Woodruff. He came here from New Jersey about 1818 and erected a large frame tavern. He is described as a large-framed, large-brained man, kind-hearted and genial. He came west with a family and with plenty of energy, physical strength and go-aheadativeness, which made his presence felt in the community. He was a man of force, a Baptist preacher, a tavern keeper, a bricklayer, and in fact, almost anything required in a new country. He served for years as a justice of the peace his picket-fence signature being a striking characteristic in the old county records. His tavern was headquarters for all kinds of business, till the erection of the courthouse in 1824.

An anecdote is related of him showing the diversity of his talents. A young physician, Dr. John Sloan, had recently arrived in the city, (1828) and was walking around getting acquainted with the place. At a place where a brick building was in process of erection, he noticed a fine looking man laying brick, and inquired of a bystander who he was. The reply was Seth Woodruff. An hour or two afterwards he passed a place where court was being held and thinking the judge had a familiar look inquired his name. Seth Woodruff, was the reply. In the afternoon he happened to pass the Baptist church, when a funeral was going on (being a doctor he was interested in funerals), so went in and was much surprised to see Judge Woodruff as the officiating clergyman.

In 1821, four years after the town was incorporated, an incident occurred which demonstrated the early strength of the feeling, which forty years afterward led to the Civil war. One day a party of men came over from Kentucky, and in broad daylight, took possession of a well known colored free man whom they claimed was a runaway slave. They succeeded in getting him to the river, and were about to put him in their skiff, when Judge Woodruff and several other prominent men who happened to be across the river saw the commotion and hastened home. The moment they landed, Judge Woodruff, who knew the man, demanded the release. The Kentuckians at first refused, but as a large and threatening crowd from the town had gathered, they were compelled to let their prey go. They did not permit the matter to rest there, however, but stood on their right of a trial to determine whether the man was a slave or not. A day was set, and the kidnappers came over with their number increased by a crowd of stalwart men, well armed. To prevent violence on their part, a company of militia, which had been formed in New Albany, was summoned to be at the trial. The man was early proved to be a free man. The Kentuckians, enraged at being worsted at law, began a commotion during which one of their number attacked Judge Woodruff. A German boy whom the judge had befriended then pounced on the man and brought upon himself the fury of the mob. His life was for a moment in imminent peril, but he was rescued by the prompt action of the militia.

By 1816 the town had slowly emerged from the forest, and numbered about two hundred. Its foundations had been laid largely in faith and prayer, Joel Scribner being a devotedly pious man, and had exercised, from the beginning an influence for truth and righteousness. When the original plat was made by the Scribner brothers, several valuable lots were reserved for the support of a Presbyterian church, and with unusual generosity, for those days, they donated to the Methodist church the site on which they erected their first church building. The growing desire for an organization of the few Christians of the Presbyterian faith living in New Albany and Jeffersonville led to a gathering at the latter place, and the organizing on the 16th day of February, 1816. The minister who officiated on the occasion was Rev. James Grady, an Irishman from Pennsylvania, who after laboring in the Carolinas and Kentucky had been commissioned by the General Assembly to do mission work and found churches in the territory of Indiana. The Lord's Supper was administered, and the following members enrolled: Gov. Thomas Posey and wife, John Gibson and wife, James M. Tunstall, James Scribner, Joel Scribner, Phebe Scribner (mother of Joel), Esther (his sister, afterwards Mrs. Nathan Hale), Anna M. Gibson. The church was destitute of any stated means of grace during the subsequent months of the year 1816, and of its history little is definitely known, further than that the Rev. D. C. Banks, pastor of a church in Louisville, and possibly others, occasionally ministered to it. Within a short time of the organization, the Jeffersonville members all withdrew. Thomas Posey and wife moved to Vincennes; John Gibson and wife, to Pittsburgh; the other Jeffersonville members united with a church in Louisville. Only the four Scribners who resided in New Albany were left.

The church having thus lost the character of a union church, it was proper that it should be reorganized and renamed. The members therefore assembled on the 7th day of December, 1817, in the back parlor of Mrs. Phebe Scribner's house, on the corner of Main and High streets. The moderator of the meeting was the Rev. D. C. Banks, by whom many of the earlier churches of Indiana were organized. It was

then resolved that as all the members of this church residing in Jeffersonville have withdrawn, the union church should from this time be known as the First Presbyterian church of New Albany. At the same time Jacob Marcell and Hannah, his wife, Stephen Beers and Lydia, his wife, and Mary Scribner, wife of Joel, were received by letter from other churches. The church proceeded to elect two additional elders and Jacob Marcell and Stephen Beers were unanimously elected and subsequently ordained and installed as ruling elders. These, together with Joel Scribner, constituted the session. The Lord's Supper was administered as is usual on organization, and as there was no communion service two large pewter plates belonging to Mrs. Scribner were used and being of very fine quality, were considered very appropriate.

In 1818 a small church building was erected, a very plain frame structure about 40 by 30 feet, with unplastered walls, and rough board floor, seats and pulpit.

It was occupied for only a few months, when it was destroyed by fire. After this, the members worshiped, for a time, with the Methodist brethren, or at the home of Joel Scribner. The congregation becoming too large for Mr. Scribner's house, they used the old courthouse, a rough unfinished building. In this year (1818) also a sabbath school was organized in connection with the church, which is believed to have been the first sunday school in the state. The distinguished honor of inaugurating this enterprise belongs to Mrs. Nathaniel Scribner and Miss Caroline Silliman. A church building of brick was finished with steeple and bell in 1830, and was considered a fine edifice for that time. It stood on a lot donated by the Scribners. At this time there was a membership of one hundred and thirty-one.

In 1832 Rev. S. K. Snead was called to become the pastor, and during his ministry one hundred and thirty-nine were added to the membership. In 1835 Mr. Snead began preaching at a private house in the neighborhood of Mount Tabor, usually on alternate sabbaths and formed a Bible class of young persons who met the sabbath afterwards and was productive of much good. In the summer of 1836 a few of the

members purchased three acres of ground and another acre was given by a man who owned the adjoining farm. This plot was set apart as a campmeeting ground and solemnly named "Mount Tabor" in commemoration of the mount on which our Lord was transfigured. Campmeeting was held here annually and sometimes twice a year until 1833, and many persons were converted and united with the city church. When the Presbyterian church was divided, the campmeetings were continued under the auspices of the Second church and a church building was erected in 1848. Owing to some differences of opinion in regard to Old School and New School (which now happily has been done away with) the Presbyterian church was divided in 1837.

Presbytery granted permission for the organization of the Second Presbyterian church to which one hundred and three members united. A committee was appointed to make an equitable division of church property. At the division the First church was left with seventy-one members. In December, 1837, the Rev. Wm. C. Anderson was elected pastor at a salary of \$800 and entered on his work the February following and the membership speedily grew to one hundred and three. Although the second year was one of financial embarrassment the contributions of the church amounted to \$2,865, including \$1,500 for the support of the pastor. A new church edifice began to be spoken of early in 1850, and preliminary steps were taken for its erection. The old church on State street was torn down and the congregation worshiped in the second story of a store room of one of the members until the fall of 1852, when they began holding services in the lecture room or chapel of the new church which had been constructed (partly) of the brick from the old church. The present building was completed, with the exception of the spire, in 1854 and dedicated in the spring of that year. The spire and bell were added some years later. The style of the church is Norman of the twelfth century, and the finish chaste and elegant, being one of the most churchly interiors in the state. The total cost was about \$35,000, and it is worthy of record that the money was raised as the work proceeded, without asking or receiving a dollar beyond the bounds of the congregation, and with very

little debt when completed. At this time (1854) the town had grown to 17,000 inhabitants with 14 Evangelical churches with a membership of 2,300 and church sittings for 5,800. Of the 4,000 children between the ages of five and twenty-one years about 1,700 were in the sabbath schools.

In 1898 the First Presbyterian church was gutted by a spectacular but disastrous fire, during which the beautiful spire was wrapped in flames and fell to the street. Only the bare wall remained. The fine organ, the communion service, the music, all were gone. There was much discussion in regard to rebuilding. Many wanted the church built in the eastern part of the city, but as it was found that most of the walls were safe, it was decided to rebuild on the old site. After heroic efforts, owing to insufficient insurance to replace the loss, the building was restored as nearly like the original as possible and is now regarded as the best auditorium in the city. The congregation, within the past year, has rebuilt the chapel, adding many rooms for the accommodation of the increasing sabbath school and for the use of women's organizations of the church. The pastor in charge (1921) is Rev. Walter T. Percy, a native of Canada, who is doing a good work and is greatly beloved by his people.

The first building of the Second Presbyterian church was on the corner of Main and East Third streets and was occupied by them until about eighteen years ago when a large modern church with manse on adjoining lot was built. Some years after the Second church was organized due to the rapid growth and to many of the members living in the eastern portion of the city, it was thought best to divide and the Third Presbyterian church was organized. A lot was donated by the heirs of Judge Conner, and a building erected as a mission chapel on East Ninth street prior to the division. The church prospered, and February 9, 1868, a substantial stone building was erected on the corner of Spring and East Ninth streets costing \$26,000. Rev. Charles served the church as pastor for fifty years and, by his zealous and consistent character, endeared himself to all good citizens. A church building was erected at Mount Tabor in 1838 and a sabbath school and preaching services are still held there. About three years ago the Second and Third united in one

church, and the Third church property was sold to the First Baptist church and the Second church adopted the name of Hutchinson church in honor of the beloved pastor of the Third. The present pastor is Rev. Thomas B. Geshman, DD. L.L.D.

Rev. John Shrader organized a class of the Methodist Episcopal church at the residence of Mrs. Ruff in 1817, and in November of that year dedicated the first church building in the town, on a lot donated by the Scribner brothers. In 1830 a brick building was erected. This was sold in 1854, having been used for twenty-four years, and a building solidly constructed of hard brick, 520,000 being used in its erection. With the parsonage the property is valued at \$30,000.

As Centenary Methodist church was organized in 1839, just one hundred years from the beginning of Methodism in London, in the old foundry, it was given its name. The church building is on Spring street above East Third and the parsonage is on the lot below. The building has been somewhat remodeled but stands essentially as it was erected nearly three-quarters of a century ago. It has always been well attended, and is popular with the general public. The present pastor is the Rev. J. A. Sumnold.

On the corner of Spring and east Thirteenth was built Trinity Methodist church in 1889 at a cost of \$40,000. It has a membership of about 400, and is an active and progressive church. A fine brick parsonage also belongs to this church. The present incumbent is Rev. W. H. Hargett.

Main Street Methodist church was organized about 1850 and named Roberts Chapel in honor of Bishop Roberts, but was changed some years ago. The present brick edifice was erected in 1877 and quite recently a parsonage has been added on the lot adjoining. The membership is between three and four hundred. The present pastor, Rev. W. H. Hamerton, has done a great work here and is so beloved by his people that they have insisted on his return year after year and their desire has been granted.

Calvary church, a class of German Methodists, was formed about 1850, meeting for several years in one of the public school buildings. The brick church on Spring and east Fifth

streets was dedicated in 1889 or 1890. The parsonage is back of the church on Fifth street. They have several hundred members. The name of the church was changed during the war from German Methodist Episcopal church to Calvary.

In 1865 the late Hon. W. C. Depauw purchased a building formerly used by the Episcopal church and had it moved to Vincennes street where it was long known as Kingsley Mission and Mr. Depauw was superintendent of the Sunday school. This was burned in 1883 and Mr. Depauw replaced it with another building. Just as it was ready for dedication, Jennie Depauw, aged 13, died, and in memory of the daughter of one who has contributed more to Methodist enterprises than any other man in this section it was named Jennie De Pauw Memorial November 3, 1884. It has grown very rapidly and now has a large membership and the largest men's Bible class in southern Indiana, called "The Love-Wise Class." This church although it has been twice burned down and re-built, is one of the strongest Methodist churches in the city.

Seth Woodruff, who has been mentioned elsewhere in this narrative organized the First Baptist church in New Albany, about 1825. After ten years dissensions arose which led to a division, 43 members going to form the Park Christian church and in 1844 a Second Baptist church was formed. The old First Baptist continued until 1878, when its principal members united with the present organization. The church on Fourth street near Market was erected in 1879, and was used until this year when it was sold and the Third Presbyterian church purchased. It has quite a large membership and is now in a prosperous condition under the pastorate of Rev. Mr. Woods.

Park Christian church was founded May 19, 1835, by forty-three members who had withdrawn from the Baptist church. The present commodious edifice was erected in 1869 on the corner of Market street and Scribner park, and is a handsome building and the church has an increasing membership.

Central Christian society was organized in January, 1872, with thirty members and a church building on Spring near east Fifth was erected the following summer. This church

now has one of the finest buildings in the city, modern in every respect, and has recently built a fine parsonage. The membership is between four and five hundred and the pastor, Rev. H. G. Connelly, one of the most popular in the city.

Culbertson Avenue Baptist is a small church in the eastern part of the city, erected in 1889.

The advent Christian church is in a frame building in the eastern end of the city. It was built in 1819 and has a membership of about 250.

In the year 1834, the few faithful Episcopal churchmen who had cast in their lot in New Albany felt called upon to break the ground and plant the vine. Lathrop Elderkin, to whom with Elizabeth Burnett is due the credit for the enterprise, called a meeting, at the former's residence, of the citizens who were friendly to the establishment of a church in this community. This meeting was held on the evening of July 19, 1834. On the 22d day of February, 1839, a lot was purchased for a building and the committee was ordered to proceed with the erection of St. Paul's Episcopal church. On the 10th of April, 1839, the bishop laid the corner stone. In this building the services of the church were conducted until the 24th of November, 1863, when the property was sold to the Lutherans. On February 10, 1864, a lot, 60 by 120 feet, was purchased on east Main street near Sixth for \$1,300 cash, and the work of building a frame church was at once commenced. On June 1, 1865, the corner stone was laid. For nearly thirty years this was the home of the church. On June 22, 1890, the present church lot was purchased, and the work of raising funds to build a stone church commenced. On September 19, 1892, the lot on Main street was sold, and services were held in one of the frame buildings that was on the property of the new site. On the 13th day of July, 1904, the debt was paid, the mortgage burned, and the church was ready for consecration. The impressive ceremonies of consecration were held on the 27th day of April, 1905, the Right Reverend Joseph Marshall Francis, bishop of the diocese officiating. Although seventy-five years have rolled around since this parish was established, it is but a brief span in the life of a church. What will be recorded in the next quarter of a century? St. Paul's has had an historic record of which

its members may well be proud. It has sent out ministers to many parts of the country who have accomplished much. One remarkable thing connected with the church is, that one of its members, Admiral George A. Bicknell (retired), has the distinction of being the son and grandson of two previous senior wardens, all bearing the same name. The present rector is Rev. F. J. Mallett. The women of the parish are active and enterprising and have several societies, among them the Auxiliary Altar guild. The men have the St. Andrews brotherhood.

Some years ago, there was a small frame church in the western part of the city for the United Brethren denomination. For reasons unknown to the writer this church was given up, and the building used for a mission sabbath school. A few years ago, a new church was built in the eastern end of the city, and is now in a very flourishing condition. Rev. J. M. Dick is the pastor. The Advent Christian church is also in the eastern part of the city and is a frame building, which was erected in 1891. They have a membership of about 200.

The Evangelical church is one of the strongest churches in the city. It was organized in 1837 with forty-three members, with Rev. Henry Evess as pastor. Meetings were held in the schoolhouse and the old courthouse until 1843, when a church was built on State street near Oak.

In 1865 the Zion Lutheran congregation consolidated with the Evangelical and in 1870 the present handsome edifice was erected at a cost of over \$20,000. Since that time a fine Sunday school building has been built next to the church, and a parsonage has been added on the corner above east Third and Spring. The interior of the church was burned June, 1882, but was immediately rebuilt and a new organ installed. The present pastor, F. A. Mensch, has been here for a number of years.

We have two large Roman Catholic churches, St. Marys' and Holy Trinity. Both are large, with fine buildings, good schools and many adherents.

We have four churches for colored people, two Baptist and two Methodist. The First Baptist, colored, purchased

the old Second Presbyterian church and is the largest of the colored churches.

EDUCATIONAL INTERESTS

The educational advantages of a city have much to do with its desirability as a residence and New Albany stands in the front rank in this particular. The founders of the town were zealous promoters of education and a permanent endowment fund of five thousand dollars was set apart, the interest of which was to go perpetually for school improvement. In the first year of development a large log schoolhouse was erected on the corner of State and Spring streets. This was also used as a place for religious worship for two or three years. Stephen Beers was the first school teacher of whom we have record. Mr. Cornelius taught in the upper part of James Anderson's shoe shop about 1820. An act incorporating the schools of New Albany was passed January 8, 1821, which placed the control in a board of managers and John A. Spaulding continued as the sole teacher for many years.

In 1838 the school was divided into male and female departments, and additional teachers obtained. As the accumulation of interest on the endowment fund amounted to a considerable sum, it was determined to erect a brick building on the corner of west First and Spring streets and a neat two story brick, known as the Scribner high school was completed in the spring of 1849. In 1853 the city assumed control of the public schools under a board of trustees and a complete system of grading was arranged. The New Albany high school was opened in 1853 with George H. Harrison in charge. The school enrollment of July, 1854, shows 1,570 pupils, with twenty-eight teachers in service, but the law to provide for a uniform system of common schools having that fall been declared unconstitutional, school progress was practically closed for a year or two. Charles Barnes was elected city superintendent and principal of the high school in 1855 and James E. May in 1857. The schools were badly disarranged during the Civil war, several of the buildings being taken for hospitals for wounded soldiers. The schools were without a superintendent for eight years following, during which time

many private schools flourished. As late as 1870, only twenty-eight per cent of the school enumeration attended the public schools. In that year the female high school was organized and new life infused into educational interests. Each succeeding year has added to the efficiency of our school system, and today all classes of citizens enjoy its privileges.

In addition to the usual funds received for school work, the annual interest of the investment has been a great aid. New Albany has kept abreast of the times in the free education of her youth, although the female high school was not organized till 1840. When a high school was first begun in 1855 girls had the upper room and boys the lower and a female teacher had charge of the girls' room, but the recitations were together, the boys coming up to the girls' room for some of them, and the girls going down to the boys' room for others, and we had devotional exercises conducted by the male teacher together in the boys' room, every morning. One of the petitions which Professor Barnes always had in his prayer, has stayed with one pupil for sixty years, it was from James, 3rd chapter and 17th verse. "Give us that wisdom which cometh from above, which is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy." There are now about fifteen schools for white and four for colored children in the city. We also have an excellent Business college where many of our business men and women have been trained.

THE PRESS

The opinions of the people are largely moulded by the newspapers; and to enterprising journals the progress of a city is often due. The press of New Albany has generally held an honorable reputation and ever been ready to advocate measures designed for the upbuilding of the place. Ebenezer Patrick started the first paper in New Albany in the fall of 1820, which continued for a year or two, and the *Microscope* begun April 17, 1824, in Louisville, was moved to this place, September of that year, by Dr. T. H. Roberts. This continued for only a year. The *Crescent* and the *Aurora* were each started within the next five years, but soon succumbed.

In November, 1830, Collins brothers, Henry, Thomas and James, commenced the *Gazette*, which, with changing proprietors, and under the names of *Gazette*, *Bulletin*, *Commercial* and *Tribune*, continued in succession until about 1870. In 1837 Thomas Collins issued the *Gazette* as a daily. Besides Collins we find the names of Mattingly, William Green, Leonard Green, Theodore Barnett and others connected with the above papers. In 1852 Collins & Green sold out to Milton Gregg, who was later assisted by his sons. J. P. Hancock was the next to revive the papers but with indifferent success. During the greater part of the Civil war no republican paper was printed here, but through the efforts of J. P. Luse, and Schuyler and Harriott the *Commercial* was started in 1864. It was sold to H. N. Gifford who continued it for several years, but finding that it was an unprofitable investment the paper was discontinued. When it was suspended the material and franchises were bought by the *Ledger* company. For a number of years afterward, the Republicans of Floyd county had to depend on the Louisville *Commercial* for politics. April, 1888, Packard and Brown were induced to start the *Daily* and *Weekly Tribune*. January 1, a stock company was formed with Jasper Packard as president and John W. Edmonson, secretary and treasurer. This paper still continues to be the only Republican paper in the city and is now in charge of W. S. Montgomery.

The *Argus* was started in 1836 by Dennison and Heneline as a democratic paper, this was also bought and sold several times until 1864 when Norman and Matthews purchased the plant and September 1, 1849, Norman, Morrison and Matthews commenced the *Daily Ledger*. In 1872 it was transferred to Merrill and Moter and two months later it was consolidated with the *Standard*, which had been started in 1871, the new issue taking the name of the *Ledger-Standard*. Extensive additions have been made to the plant from time to time, the job department fitted with modern type, necessary machinery put in and a good bindery established, making the *Ledger* one of the most complete offices in southern Indiana. August 15, 1881, the *Standard* was dropped from the name, leaving it as it was when originally started in 1849, the *Daily* and *Weekly Ledger*.

The *Public Press* was commenced in 1881 by Isaiah Gravin and ran for about twenty years. The *Home Organizer* is the latest mentioned in journalism in our city, and made its first appearance February, 1892. It is an advertising sheet with free distribution, and is much used by our merchants to proclaim their wares. It also has items of interest, anecdotes and sometimes a short story, so we all like to see it, and it is read by all classes. The proprietors are Ewing and Zeller.

INDUSTRIES

In the 40's and 50's, New Albany was noted for its shipyards of which there were six or more. One owner had two steamboats built in one year. At that time it was the principal industry. The shipyards lay along the river front and that portion of the town was thickly populated. Ship carpenters in great numbers found occupation and as mechanics of a superior order they did much to create for New Albany, in her early days, a reputation for unusual orderliness and respectability. The society people of the town, at that time, were for the most part the families of steamboat officers many of whom had their homes here. The title of captain was then almost as common as that of colonel is said to be in Kentucky at the present day. In New Albany's early days as a city, many handsome residences were erected in the eastern part, and substantial growth in that direction began. In the lower part of town, ship carpenters built themselves pretty and comfortable homes so that our city was then as now a city of homes.

The early ferries across the Ohio were propelled by horses, working on a tramp wheel, and afterwards steam ferries were run by Captain Irwin and others until recent years. Now that we have two bridges across the Ohio river, we have no ferry boats here, but Jeffersonville still uses them. The records in the courthouse show that the rates were, for a four wheeled vehicle, \$.50; for a two wheeled carriage or cart, \$.37½; for each sheep, hog or goat, \$.06½, etc. The owners of the ferry made fortunes in later years from their operation. The first steamboat in 1812 to pass New Albany down the river was owned by Fulton. Two boats were built

in New Albany in 1818, the "Celno" and the "Volcano". Boat building flourished until the Civil war. Previous to the war of 1861 and 1865, New Albany enjoyed the reputation as the greatest boat building point on the Ohio or Mississippi rivers. The largest and most complete steamer built at New Albany was the great "Eclipse", 365 feet long, fifty-two beam and eleven feet engines thirty-six inches in diameter. It had a full length cabin, the most beautiful in design and finish ever seen upon western waters. It cost \$140,000, and was owned by Louisville men. The "Eclipse" gained some fame in its race with the A. L. Shotwell, coming from New Orleans to the Portland wharf below Louisville in three days, nine hours and twenty-nine minutes. Let us hope that boat building will be resumed when a nine foot stage of water is secured through the system of dams. From the boat building city of its early days New Albany has grown to be a manufacturing centre of a most varied and prosperous character, which is due to and depending on, railroad facilities.

CHARITY

About the year 1876 some of the charitable women of our city decided that we needed a home for orphans and neglected children. They formed a society for the purpose, and Mr. J. K. Woodward gave them the use of an old building on the corner of Main street and the Scribner park. It had been used as a seminary for young ladies and afterwards for a boarding house, and was in rather a dilapidated condition, but was used for a few years, when Mr. DePauw donated the use of a building at Spring and Third streets, where it remained until 1882. Finding that the inmates were increasing, so that additional room would be needed, Mr. W. C. Culbertson purchased an acre of ground in Elkin avenue and erected a large brick building, which covers about one-third of the lot. He made a free gift of it to the board of managers and it was named Cornelia Memorial in memory of his deceased wife, who had been a much interested member and officer of the board. The building will accommodate sixty inmates. The Home is situated in the upper part of the city in a beautiful, high and healthful place. Every department

of the house is kept in first class condition, and our citizens greatly appreciate the generosity of Mr. Culbertson, and the successful management of this charitable institution.

In 1873, Mr. W. S. Culbertson erected a building at a cost of \$25,000 which is located on Main and Seventh streets. It is designed for the benefit of needy and worthy old ladies. He made provision for its future maintenance, by a liberal endowment fund. The building will accommodate twenty-five or thirty persons. It is non-sectarian, and the only qualification required is a good moral character, without a home and unable to support themselves.

LITERATURE AND ART

The early settlers of the city were well up in literature and art, but its development lay dormant while the "first families" were building log cabins and grubbing out underbrush. Many Yankees settled in the town, principally because slavery was not tolerated. The South, too, contributed on account of the boat-building interests. Only a few of the early writers and painters can be given for want of space. Clement Shields, son of Patrick Shields, conducted a store in the county as early as 1804. In this store he sold books, the best of the period. He also wrote poems. He afterward came to the town and built a large home on Main street. Mrs. Emma Carlton and her sister, Miss Elizabeth Nune-macher, are great grand-daughters of Mr. Patrick Shields and both have literary tastes of a high order. Mrs. Carleton's poems and other writings are sought by many publications. Miss Mary Cardwell is a forceful writer. Mrs. Laura M. Thurston, born in Connecticut, came to New Albany when quite young. She wrote several volumes of good verse. She died in 1842. George L. Morrison was a poet and portrait painter of note. Several of the old families still have some of his works. Mrs. Mary Scribner Collins has a portrait of her paternal grandmother, Mrs. Margaret Davis, painted by him about seventy-five years ago, which is still a fine portrait. Miss Morrison wrote music as well as poetry. Mrs. Angelina Lorraine Collins, wife of Mr. James Collins, wrote a temperance story called "Mrs. Ben Darby", and she also wrote a

cook book, both of which were printed by Mr. John R. Nune-macher, and had a large sale.

Forsythe Wilson wrote "The Old Sergeant", a stirring poem of war times. He was a brother of A. E. Wilson, former governor of Kentucky. August Large, a Catholic priest, wrote two volumes of poetry while a resident of this city, which are preserved in the State library. John R. Nune-macher was the leading publisher of books in southern Indiana in the early days, and he printed numerous volumes for various authors, among them *The New Purchase* in two volumes by Baynard Rush Hall, a teacher in Indiana seminary. This book is still a classic, recounting early Indiana history. It was published in one volume in the 50's. A large number of old time authors could be mentioned, but space forbids. In recent years there have been some productions worthy of preservation. Judge John H. Stotsenburg in 1879 revised the State Statutes, a work which occupied three years. During his lifetime Judge Stotsenburg wrote a great deal for magazines.

Mr. William Vaughn Moody was a talented writer of verse, and several volumes of his work are in the city library. Mr. Harvey Peake writes and illustrates articles for magazines. Mrs. Nellie Scribner Middleton, daughter of Gen. Frank Scribner and granddaughter of Abner, one of the three Scribner brothers, has written and published several books for children. Mrs. Middleton was born and raised in New Albany, but now lives at Baltimore, Maryland.

MEDICINE AND SURGERY

New Albany has supplied a number of distinguished men to the medical profession. In the *Transactions of the Indiana State Medical Society* it is recorded "The Medical Society of the state of Indiana, met at Corydon on the 10th. The following gentlemen were elected officers viz: President, Ashael Clapp, of New Albany". This was away back in 1820 at the first meeting of the old time doctors and surgeons of Indiana. Lo! and behold a New Albany doctor was made the head of the organization, over in that early time. The physicians of our city have kept pace with the others of the state ever since.

At the present writing they are too numerous to mention. Doctors perform more charity than any other profession of men, going about the city day and night ministering to the wants of suffering humanity. Dr. Clapp, mentioned above, was a physician of international reputation. Coming to New Albany in 1817, he was the first of his profession here. He married Mary Scribner, daughter of Joel, who only lived one year. He afterwards married the widow of Nathaniel Scribner. His son, Dr. William A. Clapp, also practiced medicine in New Albany up to the time of his death in 1900. He served as surgeon of the Thirty-eighth Indiana regiment during the Civil war. Dr. Clapp's kindly face and cheery disposition will long be remembered by many of the present generation.

BENCH AND BAR

On June 29, 1816, by section 11 of article 11 of the constitution, the capital of the state of Indiana was established at the town of Corydon in the county of Harrison to remain there until the year 1825 and until removed by law. The territory now known as Floyd county, was at that time embraced within the counties of Clark and Harrison. An act of the General Assembly which took effect February 1, 1819, created the new political subdivision which was thereafter to be known as Floyd county. The county seat was temporarily fixed at the town of New Albany, and it was declared by the statute that the court should be holden at the house of Seth Woodruff until suitable accommodations can be had in said county. It was not until the year 1823 that "The seat of Justice", as it was called, was permanently established at the town of New Albany by the commissioners appointed by the act of January 10, 1823.

Under the first constitution of the state the presiding justices of the circuit courts were appointed by joint ballot of the General Assembly, and held their offices during the term of seven years, "if they shall so long behave well." The state was divided into three judicial circuits, and Floyd county was placed in the Second.

Davis Floyd, a prominent citizen of Harrison county and for whom the county was named, was made the first presiding justice of the Second judicial circuit. As the day was warm this meeting was held under a large spreading elm tree which is still preserved, and was named "The Constitutional Elm." Judge Davis Floyd was succeeded by John F. Ross in 1823; John H. Thompson, 1834; William T. Otto, 1845. The last named remained in office until the general election 1852, under the new constitution, when being a candidate for judge of the Second circuit he was defeated by Hon. George A. Bicknell. The latter held the office for several successive terms, and so satisfactory was his administration of its important duties that he was several times elected without opposition. Both Judge Otto and Judge Bicknell were eastern men, and brought to the judicial station talent of the highest order, thorough academic and university training and professional learning, that would have fitted them for any judicial position under the state or federal government. Judge Bicknell was afterwards a member of congress. Lawyers of distinguished ability and wide reputation have practiced in the Floyd county circuit court ever since its organization, some of whom were Thomas Nelson, Isaac Hauk, John M. Payne, James Collins, Randall Crawford, Ashbel P. Willard, Cyrus L. Dunham, John S. Davis, Willett Bullitt, Thomas Gibson, Thomas L. Smith, Michael C. Kerr, George Vail Hauk and Walter Q. Gresham. Many lawyers practicing in that court have been called to high positions under state and federal government. Three of them became judges of the supreme court of Indiana; Ashbel P. Willard was elected governor of the state; Cyrus L. Dunham was secretary of state and a member of congress, Michael C. Kerr was reporter of the supreme court of Indiana for several terms, a member of congress, and at the time of his death was Speaker of the national house of representatives; after a brilliant career in the army during the Civil war, in which he was made a brigadier general, Walter Q. Gresham was appointed judge of the district court of Indiana, and afterwards a judge of the circuit court of the United States, for the Seventh circuit and filled several cabinet positions.

NEW ALBANY IN THE WARS

The writer remembers all the wars since that of 1812, when New Albany was not on the map. As a small child, she remembers the Spencer Grays, a company formed here in '46-'48, who fought gallantly in the war with Mexico. It was under the command of Capt. W. F. Sanderson, who came home a colonel. Frank F. Scribner, son of Abner, was in the company. In the Civil war the Twenty-third, Fiftieth and Fifty-third Indiana regiments were organized in whole or in part in New Albany. The respective commanders of these regiments were Col. Wm. L. Sanderson, Walter Q. Gresham and Cyrus L. Dunham. The Twenty-third had a brilliant record in the field, and its survivors met every year in New Albany, in reunion to tell of the many engagements they were in during the four years of unpleasantness. The regiment was with Grant in his campaign against Forts Henry and Donelson, at Shiloh, on April 7, 1862; was with Sherman on his march to the sea, and in other engagements till the close of the war. The regiment was discharged and mustered out of the service at Louisville, Kentucky, July 25, 1865, having sustained a loss by death of 524. Frank, son of Abner Scribner, before-mentioned was captain of one of the companies, afterwards a colonel and brigadier general. Of those who served in the navy for forty years was Admiral George A. Bicknell, retired, now a resident of this city, his birthplace. He was a son of Judge George A. Bicknell. During the Civil war all the regiments from Michigan, Iowa, Illinois and other northwestern states passed through New Albany, coming down on the Monon railroad from Chicago. It was a wonderful sight and also a sad one, for we all knew that some of these gallant fellows would give their lives for the preservation of the Union, but as they marched by with flying flags and martial music the children were delighted and the windows of the houses along the way were full of enthusiastic admirers who cheered and waved to the boys.

New Albany had one big scare when we heard that Morgan's band of guerrillas had invaded Indiana. Crossing the river some miles below Corydon, they passed through that town swapping their worn out horses for fresh ones belong-

ing to the citizens, without saying "by your leave". All the farmers who could, hid their horses, but many were taken. When word reached New Albany that they were headed for our town, the Home Guards started out, and it was supposed Morgan ascertained the fact of their approach, so he changed his course and went to Salem, and from there into Ohio. That was one exciting time in our history. There are still some of the veterans of the Civil war living here, and every once in a while we read of the burial of one of them in the soldiers' cemetery which is here.

In the Spanish-American war Indiana furnished 7,421 men and a company under Captain now Colonel William J. Coleman was sent from this city. In this war one of New Albany's most gallant sons gave up his life for his country in the Philippine Islands, Col. John H. Stotsenburg.

LAST BUT NOT LEAST WE WOULD MENTION PIANKASHAW CHAPTER DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

This chapter was organized twenty-five years ago and has about fifty members. Two years ago the chapter decided to purchase the old Scribner residence as a memorial of the founders of the city. It is used for a chapter house and is to be preserved as long as possible by the chapter, we hope for another century.

FIRST THINGS IN NEW ALBANY

First tree cut down, March 2, 1813.

First log cabin built by Scribner, 1813.

First frame house, Joel Scribner, 1814.

First sale of lots, November, 1813.

First child born, Harriett Scribner, 1815.

First church, Wesley Chapel (Methodist), 1817.

First preacher, John Shrader.

First school, opposite courthouse, 1817.

First teacher, Stephen Beers.

First physician, Asabel Clapp, 1817.

First hatter, Isaac Brooks, 1818.

First tavern, Cliha Marsh kept the first tavern in the town, in a little log cabin on High street (Main), 1814.

First jail, log, built by Seth Woodruff, 1819.

First steamboat, the "Ohio", built 1818.

First circuit judge, Davis Floyd, 1823.

First sheriff, James Besse, 1824.

First post master, Joel Scribner, succeeded by his son Harvey in 1823.

First surveyor, John K. Graham, 1813.

First county clerk, Joel Scribner, succeeded at his death by his oldest son, Harvey.

First merchants were Paxson and Eastman.

First courthouse built in 1823.

First recorder, Aaron Armstrong, 1833.

First bank, New Albany Insurance Co., 1832, established by Elias Ayres and Harvey Scribner.

First newspaper, by Ebenezer Patrick, 1820.

Incorporated as a city, 1839.

First treasurer, William Speake, 1846.

First county auditor, Augustus Bradley, 1846.

In writing this history I have been assisted by a record by my mother's brother, Dr. William A. Scribner, a pamphlet printed in 1892, and the Centennial Book.